

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Chandra V. Mouli § Group Art Unit: 2812

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Commissioner for Patents Washington DC 20231

ISOLATION

REPLY TO PAPER NO. 7

Sir:

In response to the office action mailed March 28, 2001, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

A method of forming a trench isolation 1. (Amended) comprising:

forming a region containing oxidation enhancing impurities in a semiconductor structure by implanting impurities which enhance the oxidation of said structure beyond that which would be expected from crystallographic damage effects; and

making a trench through said region, leaving a portion of said region around said grench.

Please cancel claim /4.

Please amend claim 5 as follows:

The method of claim 1 further including 5. (Amended) implanting argon.

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

Date of Deposit: 4-19-01 I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington DC 20231.

Lisa O'Sullivan